

New ACP brings command post to field

Story and photos by
Sgt. Daniel Lucas
203rd Public Affairs

Smaller, Faster, Better. Third Army set up its newest command and control element at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Jan. 10.

The Assault Command Post will provide Third Army a command and control element in a smaller, more flexible package anywhere in Third Army's area of responsibility.

"[Third Army] has to be ready to deploy anywhere [within Third Army's area of responsibility] within a moment's notice," said Brig. Gen. Stephen Twitty, chief of staff, Third Army. "We have to have the flexibility to get into hot spots and provide command and control."

The ACP travels with four vehicles and essential equipment to transmit necessary information back to headquarters. This allows the ACP to deploy with less than 96 hours notice to anywhere in Third Army's AOR. Once it has arrived, it can be be setup and transmitting information back to headquarters in a matter of hours.

"The [ACP] is a smaller package and requires less



Master Sgt. Brian Bland, noncommissioned officer in charge of the Assault Command Post inspects the instrumentation on a generator with Sgt. Micah Nixon, HHC, Third Army at Camp Arifjan Kuwait, Jan. 09. The ACP consists of four vehicles and less than 40 personnel and is able to provide command and control to "hot spots" anywhere in Third Army's area of responsibility within 96 hours. (Photo by Sgt. Daniel Lucas, 203rd Public Affairs)

planning and contracting to move into position," said Master Sgt. Brian Bland, noncommissioned officer in charge of the ACP, current operations, Third Army. "It can also maintain flexibility on the battlefield."


The basic package contains two humvees, a light medium tactical vehicle, essential equipment to transport a satellite dish and two Deployable Rapid Assembly Shelters.

According to DHS Technologies, the DRASH is a quick-erect shelter system that integrates shelter, mobility, lighting, heating, cooling and power in one package.

All the necessary equipment can fit into a C-17 to be transported straight to its strategic destination.

The ACP is manned by a team of less than 40 people representing a slice of Third Army's essential command and control elements.

Since October, the ACP has been picking up speed and has been prepared with the same haste as it's intended use.

"In these last few months, it has grown from a piece of paper to what you see today," said Capt. Anthony Polczynski, plans officer, current operations, Third Army. "[The ACP] is gaining momentum and motivation and its going well." 



The Assault Command Post consists of a small slice of Third Army's necessary staff consisting of four vehicles and less than 40 personnel that can all fit easily inside a C-17. This allows the ACP to deploy faster and with less support than the larger Contingency Command Post and provide more flexible command and control to anywhere in Third Army's area of responsibility. (Photo by Sgt. Daniel Lucas, 203rd Public Affairs Detachment)